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From: CN=Tom Hagler/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US
Sent: Tue 4/26/2011 5:15:26 PM
Subject: Re: BDCP Hayes-Laird meeting yesterday- and beyond

It also had something to do with the federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and the impetus behind that.

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Date: 04/26/2011 10:12 AM
Subject: Re: BDCP Hayes-Laird meeting yesterday- and beyond

CY thanks for giving a glimpse of a reasonable conclusion. Despair is held at bay for another day.

West coast supplies I believe is a reference to the original plan to divert the Eel River to the CV, a la Klamath. Not pursued because of a decision by Gov. Reagan (and a there's pretty story about his respecting the wishes of Native Americans to justify what was probably a pragmatic conclusion beforehand).

uh oh, cynicism rearing up...

Bruce

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Date: 04/26/2011 09:40 AM
Subject: Re: BDCP Hayes-Laird meeting yesterday- and beyond

Erin, thanks for the fast write-up.
To all-

Interior/Reclamation released an interesting report yesterday ("SECURE") on climate change and water supply impacts in various of its project basins, including the Sacramento and San Joaquin. One of the striking findings is an estimated decrease in mean annual runoff of 8.7% in the San Joaquin basin (cf 2.5% increase on the Sacramento side).

Putting the BDCP process and players in context, I wonder that there isn't an effort to rescope the water supply planning and make more use of the conservation/transfers side of the ledger.

The issue of Delta diversions obviously involves more than the two projects: Upstream of Delta diverters also contribute to depletions from the Delta.

Also, it's obvious that the BDCP process and IF project cannot be held responsible for covering restoration needs-- hence some proportion comes from the public (ideally, with linkage to diverters, tho Laird's answer was 'general fund'.)

All this speaks to need for State Board involvement and a broader approach to responsibility for supporting Delta protection.

Has anyone considered a supply approach, with IF, that is designed to encourage conservation-based transfers across existing diverters, in combination with Delta improvements? That would include translating Delta /Bay water needs (inflow, suitable hydrology, outflow) into maximum diversions (or inflow requirements) apportioned across tribs to the Delta and setting up some process that encourages (e.g.) export supplies achieved through upstream efficiencies. (Not a radical idea, just a recombination of pieces in play. And underpinned by the premise that the conservation would be implementing a regulatory requirement- i.e., a change in perpetuity, converting a claim to diversion to one of those instream dedications.)

Not obviously attractive to WWD but perhaps with sufficient merit to garner support among current critics, and maybe provide stronger basis for general fund contributions.

C

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Date: 04/26/2011 08:30 AM
Subject: BDCP Hayes-Laird meeting yesterday

Hey Delta Team,

Did any of you get a chance to see yesterday's BDCP meeting on webcast? If not, it was good. Here are some highlights. Assume standard material for each of the participants. My highlights include things I thought interesting and/or not part of their regular statements wrt BDCP.

Laird opening remarks -- "real engagement means you can describe a fellow stakeholder's perspective in a way

they would agree with and consider fair." Mentioned transparency and executive committee meetings (I think Laird mentioned exec comm. maybe it was Hayes or Meral, one of them did; it perked lots of interest).

Hayes opening remarks --

Oil gusher in the Gulf had big impact on DOI; fully realize SF Bay Delta and CA is one seismic event away from no Delta water going to So Cal for 3-years.

Obama administration is fully in lock-step with Brown administration

Alternatives will be released within weeks or months

Questions fielded

What is status of IFAP? It was updated last December? (is that true? I didn't think it was updated really just re-affirmed, was anything new added?). Hayes mentioned leadership council, short term focus on water transfers, updated allocation today, no mention of ANPR or conservation roundtable stuff.

Why consider an isolated conveyance when it repeatedly wrecks the resource it goes around (Owens Valley, Mono Lake)? Avoided answer.

Who pays for restoration? S & F water contractors and general fund (Laird)

Timeline for BDCP?

Alts and preferred alt in a few months

DEIS Jan 2012

FEIS 2013

What executive committee? Who is on it? Is it open to the public? Laird didn't know said would be posted to website.

Meral -- many opportunities for public involvement to address laundry list of important issues (paraphrasing here) by using working groups; public forum afterward; public comment period on permit actions.

Conservation Community (Spreck Rosecrans EDF, Jonas Minton PCL, Dick Pool Water for Fish, Gary Bobker TBI, John Cain Am Rivers)

salmon industry cannot sacrifice fish for supply;

What is "scenario 6" ? Process is not transparent.

less pumping in dry years, cannot continue to take more,

use science in decision making, do not "Decide Announce Defend,"

everyone pays not just ecosystem and in Delta communities,

need more trust recent legislative efforts erode trust.

Delta Communities (Mike Reagan Solano Co Supervisor, Mike McGowan Yolo Co Supervisor, Chris Cabaldon West Sac Mayor, Tom Zuckerman Rec District 17).

BDCP perpetuates the myth that former levels of water exports are sustainable. 4.5 MAF is unrealistic expectation. North coast supply never developed (what is this? mentioned twice), cannot base water contracts on unrealistic and undeveloped supplies.

State and federal water contractors offered to fund state and federal regulatory agencies b/c budgets were being cut (????)

Consumptive use interests are only interested in BDCP to increase water exports

No specifics on ecosystem restoration; only specific item is peripheral canal

BDCP process not addressing state law and requirements to reduce reliance on Delta for water, increase conservation and water supply independence, and ignoring Delta flows report.

Water Users (Tom Birmingham, Westlands Water District, Greg Gartrell, Contra Costa Water District, Beau Goldie, Santa Clara Valley Water District, David Guy, Northern California Water Association)

We are all water users as you consume produce from Westlands

Meeting creates false expectations that all farming will persist in Delta. Cannot restore habitats and farm them, accept it.

We don't know the effects of an isolated facility on water quality and won't until we build it.
Ditto low flows in Sac River on predation, need adaptive mgmt
We shall not overcome uncertainty
Need storage
Govt unwilling to make difficult decisions. We need to move forward with strong leadership.

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<http://www.epa.gov/region9/water/watershed/sfbay-delta/index.html>